



American Citizen Services Unit
U.S. Embassy Santo Domingo
Warden Message



TO: American Citizens and Consular Wardens

FROM: ACS Unit

DATE: May 24, 2010

SUBJECT: Hurricane Season Awareness and Preparations

The U.S. Embassy is transmitting the following Warden Message to remind U.S. citizens that June to November is hurricane season and that the Dominican Republic is subject to seasonal storms.

Minor storms can develop into hurricanes quickly, limiting the time available for departure or locating a safe haven. U.S. citizens are encouraged to review the Department of State's "Hurricane Season - Know Before You Go" at www.travel.state.gov and the National Weather Service website at <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>

In the event of a storm, U.S. citizens should monitor local radio, the National Weather Service at <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov>, and local media to stay aware of any weather developments in their area. For official information from the Dominican Government regarding weather conditions, please visit the ONAMET website at <http://www.onamet.gov.do>. The Dominican Emergency Operations Center (COE) website can be found at www.coe.gov.do. Other helpful sources of information are available at the U.S. Citizens Services page of the U.S. Embassy website at <http://santodomingo.usembassy.gov/hurricane.html>

Travelers should apprise family and friends in the United States of their whereabouts, and keep in close contact with their tour operator, hotel staff, and local officials for instructions in

the event of a weather emergency. Travelers should also protect their travel and identity documents against loss or damage, as the need to replace lost documentation could hamper or delay return to the United States.

U.S. citizens resident in the Dominican Republic should prepare in advance for hurricanes by maintaining a stock of bottled water, non-perishable food items, a battery-powered radio, vital identity documents stored in a waterproof container/bag, and prescription medications. U.S. citizens should ensure the family's passports have not expired.

While the U.S. Embassy will make every effort to assist Americans in a crisis, local authorities are primarily responsible for the welfare of people in their jurisdictions. U.S. citizens should monitor local radio, the Embassy website, and other media to stay aware of weather developments in their area. In the event of a hurricane alert, the U.S. Embassy will post a notice on its web page at <http://santodomingo.usembassy.gov>.

American citizens traveling or residing overseas are encouraged to register with the appropriate U.S. Embassy or Consulate on the State Department's travel registration website at <https://travelregistration.state.gov>

For any emergencies involving American citizens, please contact the American Citizens Services (ACS) Unit of the U.S. Embassy. The Consular Section Embassy is located at the corner of Cesar Nicolas Penson Street and Máximo Gómez Avenue, Santo Domingo, D.R.; telephone 809-221-2171; after hours ask to speak to the duty officer; ACS unit fax 809-689-6142; e-mail acssantodom@state.gov; web page www.usemb.gov.do.